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Website | www.communities.gov.uk

1.0 Dangerous Goods Emergency Action Code List 2007

1.1 The Dangerous Goods Emergency Action Code List 2007 was published on 20 July 2007 and replaces the Dangerous Goods Emergency Action Code List 2005 which was published on 21 June 2005. Fire and rescue services were notified of that publication in Fire and Rescue Service Circular 32-2005.


2.0 Action by fire and rescue services

2.1 Fire and rescue services should replace their existing copies of the EAC List 2005 with the EAC List 2007, with immediate effect.

2.2 Fire and rescue services are also reminded that emergency action codes are specifically intended for the first few minutes of a transport incident involving dangerous goods in bulk or in tanks and should not therefore be considered the definitive actions for any incidents involving dangerous goods and may only give an indication of actions required for non-bulk incidents.

3.0 Changes

3.1 The EAC List 2007 contains six new United Nations numbers for new dangerous goods, as well as a small number of other additions, deletions and amendments to existing United Nations numbers.

3.2 Consequently there are a very few code changes that will appear on Hazchem plates. However, there are a number of changes to Additional Personnel Protection (APP) codes. These nearly all relate to toxic or corrosive liquids which are also flammable. Most of these substances have previously only been assigned chemical protective clothing (CPC). CPC would however constitute a danger in a fire situation and the most appropriate protection is fire kit in conjunction with CPC. Although some of these materials do not strictly speaking require gas-tight CPC as a result of their chemical properties, the default in the EAC list is gas-tight, since most fire and rescue services are now using gas-tight as their standard provision for CPC. These materials have therefore been allocated an APP code A, indicating gas-tight CPC with fire kit. However where liquid-tight CPC will be sufficient, data systems such as Chemdata and CIRUS will be able to indicate where such a lower level of protection is applicable.
3.3 Where more than one EAC has been assigned to a single UN number, the
EACs are generally identified by packing groups (I, II or III). This is an
international system used by the dangerous goods transport sector to identify
the level of danger within a particular dangerous goods class; packing group I
being the highest level of danger and packing group III the lowest. In the
previous list (2005), where more than one EAC had been assigned to a single
UN number for flammable liquids, the EACs were identified by flash point
levels e.g. UN 1105 Pentanols flash points less than 23°C or 23°C or above.
These have generally been identified in the 2007 List by packing groups I & II
and packing group III respectively. The cut off for these packing groups
generally corresponds to a flash point of 23°C but there are a few exceptions to
this e.g. certain viscous materials.

3.4 The upper limit of the flammable criteria for dangerous goods under the United
Nations system has been decreased from 61°C to 60°C. The exception to this
is UN 1202 (gas oil, diesel fuel or heating oil) which is considered flammable
for transport if the flash point is less than 100°C.

4.0 APP Code A

4.1 Where an APP Code A had been assigned, the reasons for the use of fire kit
with CPC were included in the 2005 List. Responders have indicated that they
have found this to be helpful and this has been further extended in the 2007
List to include flammable liquids that are also toxic or corrosive.

5.0 Obtaining copies of the EAC List 2007

5.1 A copy of the EAC List 2007 has been sent to Chief Fire Officers under
separate cover. Further copies can be obtained from the Stationery Office, PO
Box 29, Norwich NR3 1GN, 08457 023 474, fax 0870 600 5533, textphone
0870 240 3701, e-mail: book.orders@tso.co.uk (ISBN 978 0 11 341315 7)
price £25.

5.2 The EAC List 2007 can also be accessed on the Communities and Local
Government website from the following link:
www.communities.gov.uk/hazard

6.0 Emergency Action Code Cards

6.1 The Emergency Action Code Cards 2004 are still extant and further copies of
these cards can be obtained from the Stationery Office at the above address.

7.0 Related Documents

7.1 The EAC List 2007 contains all the United Nations listed dangerous goods
(except Class 1 – Explosives) contained in the 14th Edition of the United
Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods Model
Regulations.

7.2 Information on the transportation of those dangerous goods allowed for
transport in the UK by road is contained in the European Agreement
Concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR)
2007.

7.3 These documents can be obtained from the United Nations or accessed on the
UNECE website at www.unece.org/trans/danger/danger.htm
7.4 The ADR agreement and the equivalent Rail Regulations (RID) were implemented in British Law by the Carriage of Dangerous Goods and Use of Transportable Pressure Equipment Regulations 2007 (SI 2007/1573) from 1 July 2007.

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